

U.S. Department of Justice United States Attorney Southern District of Mississippi 188 East Capitol Street, Suite 500 Jackson, Mississippi 39201

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 8, 2008

Aberdeen Woman Pleads Guilty to Katrina Fraud

Natchez, Miss - **Lizzie Bell Langston**, of Aberdeen, Mississippi, pled guilty to FEMA fraud before U.S. District Judge David Bramlette, III in U.S. District Court today, U.S. Attorney Dunn Lampton announced.

Langston pled guilty to an Indictment charging her with making a false claim to the Mississippi Department of Employment Security ("MDES") for federal disaster assistance funds. Langston fraudulently filed a disaster assistance application in the name of her exhusband without his knowledge. Afterwards, she forged her ex-husband's name on the checks and cashed them. Langston received a total of \$2,735.00 from MDES.

Langston is scheduled to be sentenced before U.S. District Judge David Bramlette, III, on October 7, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. She faces a maximum sentence of 5 years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine. This case was investigated by the United States Department of Agriculture, and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jerry Abdalla.

###